Dear Jim, re 77-2155-access I give others;time it takes 2/3/78
How DJ and FBI can help

Having had a single request for the FBI's records on the critics repeated twice so far this week I face the problem about which I have already taken time to write Paul and Mary before this morning and to Sylvia Meagher this morning. I have no choice. In good conscience I must on the one hand make records available and on the other try to see to it that the deliberate damage to these people, even those with whom I have no contact- and in some cases do not get along with at all -is minimized.

I have thought of a way in which this can be made much easier. It also has the advantage of saving much cost and work for the government.

Please ask Lynne on a phone-call level to provide a list of all the citations to all the critics as they can be provided from the FBI HQ central indices.

If she or they complaint that they are required to provide copies of records only then tell her we can file an FOI request for copies of the notations in the indices and will. As an alternative I'll accept a sheet of paper on each one with the citations. I'd also want an affidavit from the agent making the search/list that to his personal knowledge it includes every citation.

So they can understand this tell them that lying is incredibly consistent and that it extends to the field offices. Tell them that absent full compliance with regard to my PA request now overdue since 1975 they'll learn in court.

You can also tell her that they saw to it that my PA requests were denied me and that I want others not to be so abused or for me to be the means of abusing them.

You might remind of their continuing failure to comply with my request for the worksheets and suggest that the deliberateness of this effort to hurt those who had criticised the FBI may be one of the motives. The worksheets will disclose that the FBI lacked interest in protecting their rights while withholding the names of well-known police people under claim to privacy.

They told Gesell that they regard these records as complying with my requests. We assured Gesell that I make my copies available to others. Unless they do as I ask they assure that both assurances are a deception of the judge.

Without a list of the records relating to me I do not have access to them in such a mass. Meanwhile, I have had several inquiries about them this week.I do have an old PA request on which, as I recall, my appeals remain without pro forma response. Without a list I cannot provide others the records on them- and the FBI isn't.

Now, on the records on me there is continuing harm to me from not having access, which means copies under my PA request or a list under 77-2155. Just yesterday Lardner asked me about a particularly vicious couple that had not been provided under PA. One had me fired by the State Department as a Communist, which is false. The other had me in some kind of wrongful association with the Russian Embassy, which is opposite both the nature and the purposes af the few contacts I had.

Please remember that in disclosing this false representation I believe they have waived on b1. Here is why:It was no secret in Washington that back in those days the FBI photographed all entering and leaving the embassy and the adjoining chancellory. I went there as a reporter, for what was then the third largest picture magazine. The USSR p.r. people never complied with any of my requests for material and in two cases I recall clearly stole my rejected ideas and used them with certainty of more extensive attention. (Lardner was amused, as a reporter would be, over these specifics.) I was there in a dispute over their manner of stealing the work of American authors and not paying for it, as I'm sure mail intercepts of that period reflect. I may have been there but I know I was in touch by phone when the State Department asked me first if I would go to the USSR to

teach them how to raise better chickens.

As part of the second, which really began with USIA, State also asked me to invite Khruschev to our farm when he was at Ike's farm or Camp David, both not far away and both on the direct route from Washington passing by or over our farm. I was also asked to arrange for the Russians to be able to inspect an ordinary American feed mill and I did make the arrangement. (As I recall the one at State who made the requests of me was Willis Lorrie- all by phone.)

I was officially the best chicken raiser in the country is several categories at the time. The contest was sponsored by the Northeast Poultry Producer's Council. I have some literature on this. And our also prize-winning recipes. The MEPCO agreed to pay my expenses on the projected trip to the USSR. I presume the FBI nixxed this and is now withholding those records, too.

But I had no clandestine or improper of sinister and certainly no espionage or political contacts with the Embassy. Despite the FBI's nasty and baseless inferences.

If they are unwilling to do as I ask and to do it promptly let me know and I'll file a request and save you the time. If I do this I'll include all FO's and ask that they do the contacting of the FOs and givem them another problem to contend with. And more to worry about getting aired in court.

What the FBI is doing is a major impediment in my work, as it has been. It also interferes with my finding time to finish up the projec t for Civil Division.

Hastily,